GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES A
Paper 2A

Specimen 2018  Morning  Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
• an AQA answer booklet.

Instructions
• Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
• Write the information required on the front of your answer booklet. The examining body for this paper is AQA. The paper reference is 8062/2A.
• Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.
• Choose four themes.
• Answer all questions on those four themes you have chosen.

Information
• The maximum mark for this paper is 96 plus 5 marks for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) will be assessed in the 12 mark question. The marks for SPaG are shown below the mark allocation for each question. The best of these marks will be included in your total for the paper.

Advice
• You are advised to spend 25 minutes on each theme.
Theme A: Relationships and families

01. Which one of the following best expresses the religious view that one purpose of marriage is to have children?

A) Procreation B) Contraception C) Stability D) Polygamy

[1 mark]

01. Give two religious beliefs about the nature of the family.

[2 marks]

01. Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about the use of artificial contraception within marriage.

In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

01. Explain two religious beliefs about the role of parents in a religious family.

Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

[5 marks]

01. ‘Divorce is never right.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:
- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion.

[12 marks]

SPaG 5 Marks
02. 1 Which of the following is a religious theory about how the universe began?
   A) The Big Cloud       B) Creation       C) Collision theory       D) Atomic theory
   [1 mark]

02. 2 Give two examples of what religious believers might do to help to carry out the duty of stewardship.
   [2 marks]

02. 3 Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about abortion.
   In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.
   [4 marks]

02. 4 Explain two religious beliefs about animal experimentation.
   Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.
   [5 marks]

02. 5 ‘It is not reasonable to believe in life after death.’
   Evaluate this statement.
   In your answer you:
   • should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
   • should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
   • should refer to religious arguments
   • may refer to non-religious arguments.
   • should reach a justified conclusion.
   [12 marks]
Theme C: The Existence of God and Revelation

03.1 Which one of the following best expresses the idea that the divine (God, gods or ultimate reality) is beyond this world?
A) Omnipotent B) Omniscient C) Transcendent D) Immanent

[1 mark]

03.2 Give two types of general revelation.

[2 marks]

03.3 Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about visions.
In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and non-religious beliefs.

[4 marks]

03.4 Explain two religious beliefs about miracles.
Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

[5 marks]

03.5 ‘The design argument proves that God exists.’
Evaluate this statement.
In your answer you:
• should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
• should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
• should refer to religious arguments
• may refer to non-religious arguments
• should reach a justified conclusion

[12 marks]
Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict

04. 1 Which one of the following best expresses the religious ideal that there should be no violence in the world?

A) Defence  B) Justice  C) Peace  D) Terrorism

[1 mark]

04. 2 Give two ways in which religious believers help victims of war.

[2 marks]

04. 3 Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about weapons of mass destruction.

In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

04. 4 Explain two religious beliefs about forgiveness.

Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

[5 marks]

04. 5 ‘War is never right.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:
- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious argument
- may refer to non-religious arguments
- should reach a justified conclusion

[12 marks]

SPaG 5 Marks
Theme E: Religion, crime and punishment

05.1 Which one of the following expresses the religious idea that one aim of punishment should be to encourage people not to commit any more crimes?

A) Reformation   B) Protection   C) Deterrence   D) Reparation

[1 mark]

05.2 Give two examples of religious moral laws which some criminals break.

[2 marks]

05.3 Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about the death penalty for murder.

In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

05.4 Explain two religious beliefs about breaking the law in order to get a bad law changed.

Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

[5 marks]

05.5 ‘Corporal punishment can never be justified.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:
- should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
- should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
- should refer to religious arguments
- may refer to non-religious arguments.
- should reach a justified conclusion

[12 marks]
Theme F: Religion, human rights and social justice

06.1 Which one of the following best expresses the religious ideal that everyone should get what they deserve?

A) Tolerance    B) Prejudice    C) Justice    D) Compassion

[1 mark]

06.2 Give two examples of what religious believers would see as exploitation of the poor.

[2 marks]

06.3 Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about the right of freedom of belief.

In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more other religious traditions.

[4 marks]

06.4 Explain two religious beliefs about the status of women in religion.

Refer to scripture or sacred writings in your answer.

[5 marks]

06.5 ‘It is always right to give charity to the poor.’

Evaluate this statement.

In your answer you:

• should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement
• should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view
• should refer to religious arguments
• may refer to non-religious arguments.
• should reach a justified conclusion

[12 marks]

End of questions.